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CEREMONIES

ATTENDING THE

Laying the Corner Stone

OF THE

NEW MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL BUILDING,

On Lexington Avenue and 66th Street.

MAY 25TH, 1870.

NEW YORK:

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—
1870.

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MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL,
NEW YORK, *June 20th, 1870.* }

At a Meeting of the Directors of, "The Mount Sinai Hospital," held on the 19th instant, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted.

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Board be conveyed to the Hon. ALBERT CARDOZO, LL.D., for his very able and eloquent address made on the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the New Hospital, on the 25th May last, and that he be respectfully requested to furnish this Board with a copy for publication."

(Extract from the minutes.)

SAMUEL A. LEWIS,
Hon'y Secretary.

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(Extract from the minutes.)

SAMUEL A. LEWIS,
Hon'y Secretary.

As the best introduction to the ceremonies on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the new building of the Hospital, it has been deemed desirable to print a description of the edifice, and some of the comments of various newspapers upon the proceedings on the interesting occasion.

From the Daily Times of May 15th, 1870.

The new Hospital will comprise a central or administrative building on Lexington Avenue, with a frontage of 60 feet, and a depth of 52, from which there will be an extension in the rear 20 feet by 20. The wings or pavilions will have a frontage of 31 feet and a depth of 130 feet. They will be connected with the administrative building by corridors, 37 feet in length and 18 feet in width. Thus the entire establishment will have a frontage on the avenue of about 200 feet. The steam apparatus, gas-house, pumping-engines, &c., will be located in the rear. The style of architecture will be the Elizabethan, and the material chosen for the construction of the building Philadelphia brick and marble. The basement of the three fronts will be of heavy rusticated marble ashlar, and thence to the roof all the fronts will be faced with the best Philadelphia brick. The jambs, pediments and lintels of the windows will be of marble, with marble sills and belt courses. A Mansard roof, with towers and a large central dome, will surmount the edifice. The crest ornaments, cornices and balustrades will be of iron-work. The grand entrance to the central building will be covered by a portico 15 feet in width, with columns, arches, cornices and balustrades complete. On the front of the central building, between the second and third stories, will be placed a large marble tablet bearing the name of the institution. The great feature of this building, which will certainly be one of the handsomest and most imposing in the city, is the distance—125 feet—between the pavilions. The greatest width yet given has not exceeded 110 feet. This is a most important point in establishments of this class, where light and ventilation are essential elements.

The administrative building will have a cellar 60 feet by 52, and 8 feet in height, with a basement of nearly the same dimensions. The first story will contain four rooms, each 19 feet by 22, for the accommodation of the managers of the Institution, the apothecary and physician. One apartment will be used as a reception-room. The halls will be 10 feet wide, extending each way, and will be laid with marble tiling. The second story will contain nine private wards, with closets, bath-rooms,

lavatories and nurses rooms. The third story will contain four private wards, with bath-rooms, &c., as in the second story. Here, also, will be the Synagogue, 19 feet by 56. In the fourth story there will be a hall 25 feet by 50, and 25 feet in height, with an elegant domed ceiling. It will be lighted through the roof and by side windows. Here the clinical lectures will be delivered. In connection with this hall will be six small retiring-rooms. In the extension will be the grand stair-case, the elevators and dumb-waiters. The corridors on each side of this building, leading to the pavilions, will contain a basement and first story. The basements will be used as store-rooms and dining-rooms, and the first story will, of course, form the passageways. These will be 18 feet in width, with marble floors, and ornamented with columns, pilasters, pedestals and urns for containing flowers. The pavilions will contain basements 10 feet in height, a first and second stories, and open lofts 16 feet in height. The basements are intended to be used for store-rooms, laundries, drying, bedding and dissecting-rooms. Here, too, will be the servants' rooms and the dead-house. On the second and third floors will be the wards. Each ward will accommodate twenty patients, allowing 1,400 cubic feet of air to each. Nurses' rooms, private rooms, closets, lavatories, linen-rooms and bathing-rooms will also be provided on each floor. In all, about 200 patients will find accommodation in the establishment, which will be fitted up in the most complete manner with all the latest improvements, and with some which have never yet been introduced in any similar institution. There will be five large elevators and three dumb-waiters. The five flights of iron stairs will be enclosed in brick walls. Steam will be used for heating the building, and ventilation will be amply provided for. Indeed, if the architect's plans in this particular are fully carried out, the ventilation of the building will be superior to any in this country, and perhaps in the world.

It is estimated that the cost of the building will be about \$300,000, and it is hoped that the work will be completed before the end of the next year. The architect is Mr. Griffith Thomas, of No. 470 Broadway. The mason-work will be done by John T. Connover, the marble work by Masterton & Hall, the iron work by J. B. & W. W. Cornell, and the carpenter-work by John Downey.

From the Herald of May 26th, 1870.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL.

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE OF THE NEW HOSPITAL.—INTERESTING CEREMONIES.—ADDRESSES BY BENJAMIN NATHAN, MAYOR HALL AND JUDGE CARDOZO.

There were present on the occasion Mayor Hall, Corporation Counsel Richard O'Gorman, Commissioner James B. Nicholson, the Health Officer, Dr. Carnochan; ex-Alderman Farley, Judges Kane and McGuire, Mr. Thomas, architect of the building, and other distinguished citizens, together with the medical staff of the Hospital—Drs. Willard, Parker, Jacobi, Krackowizer, Schilling, Guleke, Raphael, Percy and Budd; the officers—Mr. Benjamin Nathan, President; Mr. Emanuel B. Hart, Vice-President; Mr. Samuel A. Lewis, Secretary; and Mr. Lewis May, Treasurer; and the Board of Directors of the Hospital, together with some three hundred or four hundred of the leading representative Hebrew and other citizens. Promptly at three o'clock the Rev. J. J. Lyons stepped to the front of the platform, and read a lengthy and appa-

rently impressive prayer, in the Hebrew language, after which Messrs. Nathan and Hart, President and Vice-President, deposited in the box set in the stone documents and reports relative to the Hospital, since its foundation, specimens of the coins and current money of the country, the Hebrew papers published in New York, copies of the several daily papers of the City, and a copy of the Corporation Manual for 1869. The President then handed Mayor Hall the trowel, which was to be used by him in laying the stone. It was made of solid silver, with an ivory handle. On the front is the presentation inscription, and on the back the Hebrew characters, "Beth Holim"—Home of the Sick—the motto of the Hospital.

Then followed the addresses of Judge Cardozo, Mayor Hall and Mr. Nathan.

Excellent music was interspersed through the order of exercises, and it is almost needless to say that the several addresses were frequently interrupted by hearty plaudits from the listeners.

The building to be erected on the site, after a design by Mr. Thomas, will consist of a main administrative building and a wing on either side, connected with the main building by open corridors. The frontage on Lexington Avenue will be 200 feet, and the wings will extend back 140 feet each. The wings will be four stories in height, and the main building five stories, crowned by a large dome. They will be in the Elizabethan style of architecture, built of fine Philadelphia brick, with white marble trimmings.

From the Metropolitan Record of June 4th, 1870.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL.

LAYING OF THE CORNER-STONE—ADDRESSES OF MAYOR HALL AND JUDGE CARDOZO.

On Wednesday, the 25th of May, the corner-stone of a new Hebrew Institution, to be called "Mount Sinai Hospital," was laid in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. The site is admirably chosen for the purpose, being located at the corner of Sixty-sixth Street and Lexington Avenue, and the building, to be open to sufferers of all creeds and nationalities, will be an ornament to our city, and add another to our charitable institutions, whose number and beauty entitles us to the proud distinction of being, in the words of Mayor Hall, "the great City of Charity."

After a prayer in the Hebrew language had been read by the Rev. J. J. Lyons, all the documents and reports relating to the Hospital, the coins and current money of the country, copies of some of our daily papers and the Corporation Manual for 1869, were deposited in the box set in the stone.

The orator of the occasion was Judge CARDOZA, one of the most distinguished, learned and eloquent members of the legal profession, an accomplished scholar and an upright judge. His speech, of which we give a synopsis, was eloquent and earnest, and warmly applauded throughout.

Here follows a portion of Judge CARDOZO's Address :

The manner in which this humane intention was carried out, and the aid it received from the benevolent—"for it was supported ex-

clusively by voluntary contributions from the charitable" for ten years, from '55 to '65—was dwelt at upon some length.

In 1865, the State first recognized the institution as entitled to its protection and patronage, and since then it has been annually placed in its just order in appropriations for charitable purposes.

The old building in Twenty-eighth street becoming inadequate to the increasing demands on it, and being hemmed in on all sides by factories and tenement houses, the Legislature, on representations of these facts, authorized the city to lease the ground in Lexington avenue, at the nominal rent of one dollar a year for one hundred years.

The Judge concluded, after an eloquent and touching eulogium on the dead benefactors of the Hospital.

From the Express, May 26th, 1870.

THE HEBREW HOSPITAL.

Judge Cardozo, on the 25th, delivered a very forcible and impressive address, on the laying of the new corner-stone of Mount Sinai Hospital. In behalf of those of his own faith, he said, most truly, "experience shows they desire to protect the public charities of the land in which they dwell (while cheerfully contributing to uphold them)." They desire to relieve all others from the burden of supporting the unfortunate of their faith, by providing for all the necessities of their creed. In carrying out this purpose, they found there was lacking one important institution, which was indispensable to make their charitable system complete, and this one is now commenced. To feed the hungry, clothe the naked, bury the dead, extend material comfort to the impoverished widow, help the young orphan, and assist him to become, if not wealthy, at least a respectable citizen, are not the sole objects of Hebrew charities. There is another class whose claims upon the benevolent consists of those who need that description of medical or surgical aid which can only be afforded to them in a well regulated hospital. These hereafter will be amply provided for. We give the closing eloquent extract from the Judge's address:

Here follows an extract from the Judge's Speech.

From the Sunday News, June 5th, 1870.

MT. SINAI HOSPITAL,

JUDGE CARDOZO'S ADDRESS.

We have already given some account of the ceremonies which attended the laying of the corner-stone of the new hospital, which is to be erected at the corner of Lexington Avenue and Sixty-sixth Street. But the publication of a sketch of the address, which Judge Cardozo made on that occasion, induces us to refer to the subject again, in order to inform our readers as to the history and purposes of this excellent charity.

The Mt. Sinai Hospital Association was organized in this city in 1852 by a few pious Hebrews, some of whom yet survive to witness the full fruition of their good works, and the complete realization of their benevolent purposes. In 1853 the corner-

stone of the building in Twenty-eighth Street was laid. On the 17th May, 1855, the hospital, having been completed at a cost of about \$35,000, with accommodation for one hundred and fifty persons, was solemnly consecrated to the holy purposes of its founders. During that year one hundred and thirteen patients were the recipients of its bounty. Each year since that time its power to do good has been increased, until during the year 1869, its charity was extended to over one thousand five hundred patients.

It was the original purpose of its humane and liberal-minded founders that the benefits of their hospital should be extended to Gentiles as well as to Hebrews, to all alike; but it is only within the last six or eight years that they have had the means to accomplish this purpose. As soon as it could be done, their doors were thrown open to all, without regard to religious belief, and there are none denied admission but "those whom their vice debases."

In 1865 the hospital was taken for the first time under the patronage and protection of the State. In 1868 the city gave to the Association the site of the new building, which they are about to erect at a cost of \$250,000, "and which will be an ornament to the city, and will rival in every particular any similar institution throughout the habitable globe."

Such are the facts which we gather from Judge Cardozo's address—an oration whose chaste simplicity and Doric beauty distinguish it from most speeches of this kind, and which proves that its author is destined to achieve still greater honors than those which he has already won.

We are glad to hear that a correct report of the address and of all the ceremonies is to be published in pamphlet form. Meanwhile we will give our readers a foretaste of its character by the following imperfect report of the concluding paragraphs of the Address:

From the Hebrew Leader, May 27th, 1870.

THE CEREMONY OF LAYING THE CORNER STONE OF THE NEW
MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL, CORNER OF LEXINGTON AVENUE AND
SIXTY-SIXTH STREET, ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH INST.

Our Jewish heart was beating proudly in the memorable hour when we stood under God's celestial dome, under the bright blue canopy of heaven, which is outspread over the heads of all men, on the spot where the great temple of humanity will be reared, which is to afford shelter and relief to the sick, without distinction of creed. This temple whose pinnacles reach into the remote future, will be the holy symbol of Israel and typify their great mission of diffusing the spirit of brotherly love among men, in which lies the true belief in God. It will embody the deeper sense of the scriptural term "kingdom of priests," which does not imply that Israel claims such kingdom as a prerogative for themselves, and thereby deem themselves superior to other people, with which they are so often taxed, but denotes that Israel, the descendant of Abraham, has, like their great ancestor, to devote themselves to the cause of raising and ennobling man and fraternizing the members of the human family.

Amidst this train of thoughts, the words of the royal singer (Ps. 2, v. 7) suggested themselves to us, and as they are eminently adapted to the occasion, we will here give the following paraphrase thereof: "In such manner will I relate of the

moral law of God. He said to me in this sense thou art my son, in this spirit have I begotten thee this day."

The imposing ceremony of this day openly proclaims to our American brethren, of whatever religious persuasion they may be, what spirit of humanity the Scripture and our ancient sages have developed among us.

Well may we be proud when we consider that we are indebted for the soil on which the new temple of charity is to be erected, to the liberality of the Empire State, where equality for all reigns supreme under a wise and humane administration.

Our heart justly beat with pride because on this day so many prominent members of our community and of other persuasions have assembled who are fully convinced of, and have given expression to the significance of the day and of the noble work of humanity initiated thereon.

Co-religionists occupying high, social positions, sitting in judgment over all the citizens of the Metropolis, and deliberating on, and furthering the welfare of the community at large, openly proclaimed on this day, in the presence of their friends and ours, that they glory in their descent and firmly adhere to the historic belief bequeathed to them by their fathers, the belief that teaches them to treat all men as brethren, in whatever spirit they may work.

It was a great satisfaction for us to hear these feelings of our heart, so well interpreted by a fervent prayer and by a masterpiece of oratorical eloquence and by the highly appropriate and elevating words of our first magistrate.

This temple of humanity about to be erected is the first great Jewish work in America, establishing the house of true worship, in which the different religious tendencies, united and conciliated by the practice of charity and beneficence, proclaim and carry out religious sentiments, based upon truth incontrovertible and deeply rooted in the human heart.

Hence the record of this memorable day will present one of the noblest pages in the history of American Judaism. The matchless address delivered by Judge Cardozo, has erected in honor of this day a monument stronger and more lasting than structures of stone and metal, for it will be recorded in the annals of our race.

There is no schism, no diversity of views among us, for a Cardozo—the fiery, talented adherent of true Judaism—has interpreted the innermost feelings of us all.

We departed from thence, conscious that a new spirit had been kindled in us.

From the Hebrew Leader, June 3rd, 1870.

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE OF THE NEW MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL.

On Wednesday, 25th inst., at 3 o'clock P. M., the weather being very fine, the corner-stone of the new Hospital was laid on the plot of ground donated by the Legislature to the Mount Sinai Hospital Association.

The President, Vice-President and Directors of the Institution, with the Mayor, Hon. Oakey Hall, in their midst, under the sounds of music and attended by the medical staff of the Hospital and the architects of the new building, proceeded promptly at three o'clock to the spot where the corner-stone was to be laid, and took their seats. Opposite to them were seated in a circle the ladies and gentlemen invited to witness the ceremony, among whom were the majority of the Jewish clergymen of the city.

After the introductory march had been finished, the President, Benjamin Nathan, Esq., introduced to the assemblage the Rev J. J. Lyons, who opened the ceremony with a very fervent prayer in Hebrew, after which Messrs. Nathan and Hart, President and Vice-President, deposited, in the box set into the stone, documents and reports relative to the hospital since its foundation, specimens of the coins and current money of the country, the Hebrew papers published in New York, copies of the several daily papers of the city, and a copy of the Corporation Manual for 1869.

The President then handed Mayor Hall the silver trowel which was to be used by him in laying the stone :

Here follow Mayor Hall and Judge Cardozo's addresses.

MT. SINAI HOSPITAL.

From the New York Leader June 3, 1870.

Every fresh advancement of a great work of benevolence and charity in this city is worthy of great commendation ; and the managers of the Mt. Sinai Hospital and the public press were not straining points when they gave so much time and attention to the details of the laying of the corner-stone of the new edifice, on the corner of Sixty-sixth Street and Lexington Avenue. The daily papers have given such extended reports of the proceedings that it is only necessary, with one exception, to refer to them. That exception is the address of Judge Cardozo. The address will speak for itself. It is full, concise and compact, as in all of the Judge's rhetoric. In a few words the Judge has the capacity of saying a great deal. It is not easy to convey by description the magnetism of manner which attended its delivery. In attitude, in pose, in grace of gesture, in play of feature, in the sparkle of the eye, and in all which tends to illustrate by manner the efforts of oratory, the Judge surprised even his best friends. It is seldom that so finished an oratorical effort has been witnessed or heard in the City of New York. The full proceedings are to be printed in pamphlet form hereafter.

Advancing to the front of the stage, in the presence of a large concourse, Judge Cardozo, without notes, spoke as follows.

Here follows the Judge's address.

From the Jewish Messenger, May 27th, 1870.

OUR HOSPITAL.

LAYING THE CORNER-STONE.

A large concourse gathered at the corner of 66th Street and Lexington Avenue, on Wednesday afternoon, to witness the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the new structure of the Mt. Sinai Hospital. Many prominent clergymen and citizens were present, and quite a number of ladies added the welcome charm of their presence. Almost precisely at the time appointed the proceedings opened by an overture by Eben's band, which also performed between the various exercises. Rev. J. J. Lyons then delivered a fervent prayer in Hebrew. His Honor, Mayor Hall, received the trowel from the President of the Hospital, Mr. Nathan, who prefaced the act with a few remarks. Mayor Hall's reply was brief, but in keeping with the occasion. Judge Albert Cardozo was then introduced, and delivered an oration which may be

truly characterized as a gem of oratory. The Judge was exceedingly happy in his sketch of the Hospital, its early struggles, and present proud position. His allusion to the dead benefactors was both eloquent and impressive. An oration has never been delivered in this city which elicited more satisfaction and encomium. The able speaker was rewarded by frequent applause.

The stone was laid with the usual solemnities. In the box were contained interesting documents, and statistics referring to the Hospital, copies of the daily and Jewish press of the city, &c.

The arrangements were becomingly carried out by the Special Committee on Order, selected from the Directors.

The New Hospital is thus in course of building. The ground is admirably located, and the building will command a fine view of the Park and vicinity.

From the World of May 26th, 1870.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL.

LAYING A CORNER-STONE. SPEECHES OF MAYOR HALL, B. NATHAN AND JUDGE CARDOZO.

Yesterday afternoon the corner stone for the new building of the Mount Sinai Hospital was laid by A. Oakley Hall, Mayor of the City of New York, in the presence of a large and fashionable assemblage.

The new structure is situate at the corner of Sixty-Sixth Street and Lexington Avenue, upon a large plot of ground granted by the City Government, to the Hospital Trustees, on a perpetual lease. The building will comprise a large central compartment, with two extensive wings, and will be in the Tudor Gothic style. The architect is Mr. Griffith Thomas, who designed the magnificent offices of the Park Bank, on Broadway, and other celebrated structures about the City. For the convenience of those engaged in the ceremonies a large platform was erected at the north-west corner of the building, immediately adjoining the corner-stone. In front of this platform was a large area covered all over with planks, on which chairs were placed, for the accommodation of spectators. Very nearly a thousand ladies and gentlemen were present. Among the company were Benjamin Nathan, President of the Hospital; E. B. Hart, Vice-President; S. A. Lewis and J. J. Lyons, Secretaries; Lewis May, Treasurer; and all the other Board of Directors.

The proceedings commenced with the "March aux Flambeaux" (*Meyerbeer*), performed by Eben's band. The Rev. J. J. Lyons, of the Nineteenth Street Synagogue, then delivered prayer in Hebrew, and this was followed by appropriate solemn music. The large leaden box to be deposited inside the foundation stone was then placed in position, and filled with documents of the usual description. There were copies of all the morning journals, copies of Jewish papers, several of the recent annual reports of the Mount Sinai Hospital, a plan of the building, various reports relating to Jewish Congregations and Societies; these, together with a sealed envelope, containing specimens of currency and gold and silver coins of the United States, and a few ancient Jewish coins, were deposited in the box by the President and Vice-President, and the cover was then carefully soldered on, and the great stone cover fitted over the stone.

Here follow Mayor Hall, Judge Cardozo and Mr. Nathan's Addresses.

After some music by the band, the assemblage gradually dispersed.

From The World, May 26th, 1870.

It is a curious instance of the power of prejudice to damn an individual or a race that the proverb "as rich as a Jew" carries with it all over Christendom a gloss of low avarice and odious niggardliness. The traditional Jew of the vulgar Christian mind is a sort of pleasing compound of the "Shylock" of Shakespeare with the "Fagin" of Dickens. General Grant proved himself to entertain this view of the Jewish character by the terms which he used in issuing his notorious order for the expulsion of hucksters and traffickers from the lines of his army.

Nothing could be more monstrous than the injustice thus done to a race as remarkable for the tenderness of its humanity as for the tenacity of its faith.

The Jews of Europe and America have always been distinguished above the average of the communities in which they have dwelt for the extent and efficiency of their charities. It may well be doubted whether any conspicuous Christian capitalist of Paris, in our times, ever did so much, in proportion to his means, for the poor of that great city, as the late head of the house of Rothschild; and few living millionaires of London have lived a life of such constant and intelligent beneficence as Sir Moses Montifiore. It was a great Jewish barrister of Hamburg, Solomon Heine, who so cleverly and so generously avenged the popular injustice done his race by assuming the foundation of a great hospital in that city. Word being brought to him that a bigoted and parsimonious Christian merchant had offered to subscribe twice as much to the new institution as Heine would put down, the latter at once drew his check for one third of the whole sum required to endow the charity. Our Jewish brethren of New York are determined, it seems, not to fall behind their brethren over-seas. They already have a well organized system of relief for their co-religionists. They contribute freely to all general objects of a benevolent character. And yesterday they laid the corner-stone of a new public hospital, which is to be erected by them on Lexington Avenue, and to bear the sacred name of Mount Sinai.

Though its title refers to the law, we may be sure its spirit will not be unworthy of the Gospel; and it is by no means impossible that its administration may give us some lessons in the true economy of institutions of its kind.

Certain it is, that the Jews of London, through their Central Board of Guardians, founded in 1859, have done more not only to relieve actual suffering of the impoverished among their people, but to prevent the extension of Jewish pauperism in the great metropolis, than any Christian body has been able to effect. The systematic sanitary inspection of the Jewish quarters, made under the auspices of the Central Board in 1865 and 1866, was admitted to be the most judiciously-planned, the best conducted, and the most successful work of the kind ever done in Great Britain. With such examples to stimulate them, we doubt not that our New York Israelites will eventually compel their fellow citizens to recognize them as masters not only of the rather ignoble art of making money but also of the far higher art of nobly using it when made.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL.

ORDER OF CEREMONY ON THE OCCASION OF LAYING
THE CORNER STONE OF THE NEW BUILDING ON
LEXINGTON AVENUE AND 66th STREET, ON WED-
NESDAY, MAY 25, 1870, AT 3 O'CLOCK.

1.—MUSIC. 2.—Prayer by the Rev. J. J. LYONS. 3.—MUSIC.
4.—President and Vice-President deposit in the Tin Box various
documents and Coins. 5.—Presentation of the Trowel by the Presi-
dent to his Honor the Mayor. 6.—The Laying of the Corner Stone.
7.—MUSIC. 8.—Address by Hon. ALBERT CARDOZO, LL. D. 9.—MUSIC.

MUSIC BY EBEN'S BAND.

Punctually at three o'clock the procession, consisting of the Build-
ing Committee, escorting the invited guests—His Honor the Mayor,
the Hon. Judge Albert Cardozo, LL.D., and the Rev. J. J. Lyons,
and others, arrived at the platform, which was immediately over the
site on which the corner-stone was to be laid.

Eben's band performed one of Meyerbeer's Overtures, and at its
conclusion, Mr. Benjamin Nathan, the President of the Hospital, in-
troduced to the audience the Rev. J. J. Lyons, Minister of the Nine-
teenth Street Synagogue, who delivered a Hebrew Prayer, of which
the following is a translation :

Our God, and God of our fathers, by whose command all things were called into
existence, behold thy people approaching thy presence this day, amidst prayer and
praise, to make choice of a spot of ground which they desire to devote as holy unto
thee,—there to lay the corner-stone of a new tabernacle for the protection of the
sick and the afflicted. But what are we without thy aid? and what is our power with-
out thy blessing? Thine, O Lord! are the greatness and power; and it is in thy
hand alone, to make great and to give strength unto all things. The seed the farmer

sows would yield but thorn and thistle, if Thou didst not bless it. In vain do the builders labor, except thou build the house, and useless is the watchman's care, unless Thou, O Lord, protect the city. Who would place his trust in the foundation of brick and stone, of plaster and mortar, when, by thy mere breath, walls of iron, strengthened with bolts and bars, are overthrown? Where thou decreest destruction, none can heal the breach; but when thy Word, O Lord! goeth forth in blessing, the frail house of clay is seen to stand firmly like a rock. Thou speakest, and thy will is done! Thou commandest, and it is established! We, therefore, turn to thee this day, with our supplication, to prosper the works of our hands, and the designs of our hearts, that all of us, in this assembly, may realize the completion of this house in joy and happiness, there to imitate, as much as we can, thy attribute of love, O Lord! merciful and gracious, whose every way is mercy and truth.

Blessed be thy name, O Lord! from henceforth, and for evermore, that thou didst at first awaken the spirit of compassion in our hearts, and enabled us to deal kindly with our fellow-mortals in distress, and to afford them comfort and relief in their affliction. By thy favor we were permitted to associate together, and to erect an asylum, where many a sufferer has found help and support, health and strength. Now, O Lord, Thou knowest, it is not to make ourselves a name, it is not in pride or arrogance that we have undertaken the building of a new Hospital; but to endeavour to enlarge our usefulness, and to respond to the cries of those who, in pain and anguish, ask: "Whence shall our help come?" "Is there no more balm in Gilead?" "Who shall bind up our wounds?" It is more largely to compassionate with the distressed, that your children have taken counsel together and resolved to raise this new sanctuary in honor of thee, O Lord, who has thus far answered their prayer, and has been with them in the way which they have gone. "This is the happy day we have hoped for, we have found, we have seen it!" "This is the day that Thou hast appointed on which we will rejoice," and gratefully proclaim praise and glory to Thy name!

Regard with favor and with mercy, we beseech thee, the President, Directors, and Members of the Society, and all who are engaged in this holy work, and send them thy help and thy blessing from thy Sanctuary.

Ordain, we pray thee, peace and happiness for our Chief Magistrate, His Honor the Mayor, who has kindly favored us by accepting the invitation to lay this corner-stone, and by his participation in the solemnities of the occasion; and also for all who have assisted by their influence and liberality, by their piety and benevolence, to promote the welfare of our Institution.

Requite, we pray thee, the gratuitous services of the medical men of great fame, in this city, and regard favorably the willingness and promptness with which they strive to mitigate the sufferings of the afflicted! They are thy messengers sent on earth to do thy good work. The physician's task is arduous and difficult. May their reward be great and glorious!

Bless and preserve the distinguished orator of the day. Prosper his ways, and the ways of every one in this assembly! and fulfil, we pray thee, to them, what is promised in thy Holy Book: "Happy shall he be who careth for the poor: on the day of evil the Lord will deliver him! He shall be made happy on the earth! The Lord will sustain him on the bed of languishing! Thou, O Lord, will make all his bed in his sickness!" Amen.

We acknowledge, O God! our unworthiness of all the mercies, and all the truth

which Thou hast shown unto us, as we recall in sorrow the time when nations, walking in the stubbornness of their hearts, put every obstacle in the way of Israel, that he might not come into their council, and be not included in their assembly. But now, thanks to Thee, O God ! enlargement and deliverance have arisen for the Hebrews in many lands, more especially in this blessed portion of America, famous for its liberality and justice towards all the nations of the earth ; and well may the people ask : “ What nation is their so great as this with statutes and judgments,” enlightening the whole earth, and those who dwell therein, with righteousness and justice, with love and mercy. Look down then, we pray thee, from the Habitation of thy Holiness ! from the Heavens ! and bless and protect the Constituted Authorities of these United States, of the State of New York, and of this City ; and let thine eyes be continually open to guard and to prosper the inhabitants of this country, where every one of us “ may sit in safety under his vine and fig tree, and there is none to make “ him afraid.”

And now, O Lord ! we pray thee, vouchsafe that this stone, which we will set up as a pillar this day, may be regarded as another evidence of the progress of peace and good will among men ; may the house that we will build thereon, prove a shelter to suffering humanity, without distinction of faith ; and may we be enabled to afford cheer and comfort to everyone that may knock at its door, be he or be he not of the Seed of Israel. For we are all brothers ; and in the language of our Prophet, “ have we not all *one* Father, and hath not one God created us all ?”

Upon Mount Sinai of old, O Lord ! didst thou cause thy glory to shine forth. It was there Thou didst proclaim the law of universal compassion and mercy ! There Thou didst first command—“ Love thy neighbor as thyself.” Be gracious unto us now ! and incline our hearts fully to obey this holy precept, so that this house, which will be designated Mount Sinai Hospital, like Mount Sinai of old, may “ smoke in every part ” with the sacrifices of love and charity ; sacrifices which, we pray, may secure unto us thy blessing of peace and happiness here and hereafter !

“ May the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, prove acceptable “ before thee, O Lord ! my Rock and my Redeemer !” Amen. Amen.

MESSRS. BENJAMIN NATHAN and HON. EMANUEL B. HART, respectively the President and the Vice-President of the Board of Directors, next deposited in a metal box, designed to be inserted in the corner-stone, all documents and reports which related to the Hospital since its foundation, and embracing a complete history of it ; also copies of the Hebrew papers published in New York, and various copies of daily and weekly papers of the most recent date, with appropriate specimens of the currency of the country, and documents of a current public interest.

After which, PRESIDENT NATHAN, addressing himself to the Mayor of the City, said :

MR. NATHAN'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Mayor: As President of the Mount Sinai Hospital, the pleasing duty devolves upon me to inaugurate the ceremonies of this occasion by presenting to you this trowel, and to ask you to lay the corner-stone of our new edifice. Another, more capable than I, will, with fitting words, speak of the great work which our Hospital has accomplished, in relieving the suffering and aiding their restoration to health and usefulness. Its charity has not been limited to any creed, race, or nationality, and let us now, at this auspicious moment, indulge the hope that the good which, under the blessing of God, has been done, may be small in comparison with that which shall follow the erection of this new building—affording enlarged facilities, and thereby extending its sphere of action. And now, Mr. Mayor, before you lay the corner-stone in the place assigned for its reception, let us hope that nothing will occur to retard the progress and completion of the Hospital, which will not only be an ornament to the city, but a monument of the liberality of the community. Invoking the blessings of Almighty God on all who are assembled here this day to witness the ceremonies, and with prayers that their lives may be spared to join in the dedication of the building to its purposes, I tender to you, sir, in behalf of the directors and members of the Mount Sinai Hospital, their thanks, and the assurance of their high appreciation of the honor you have done them on this occasion.

Mayor HALL received the trowel and responded as follows :

Mr. President Nathan, and Gentlemen of the Board of Directors: I accept this useful emblem; and in doing so, I congratulate you all on the advancement of the great work of mercy you have so zealously, so disinterestedly, and so faithfully discharged for years past. But more than all, I congratulate the City of New York; and it is exceedingly appropriate that the Mayor of the City, not the individual, but the Chief Executive, should be here to take part in this interesting ceremony, and be followed by one of the most honored Judges of its highest court, who comes to lend his characteristic sympathy and the charm of his magnetic eloquence to the occasion. Other cities have their respective and characteristic titles. There is the City of Brotherly Love, and there is the City of Churches. But New York boasts of being the great City of Charity; and it is doubly appropriate that the Mayor should be here, as it were, the high priest of these ceremonies.

The Mayor then descended from the platform to the side of the stone, and leveling a portion of the cement with the trowel, continued as follows :

“I now lay this stone in the name of humanity ; in the name of our “common mortal life ; in the name of the ills of mind and body to “which we are subject, imploring that Almighty mercy for which “we all hope. In the name of that King Death, to whose sceptre “we all bow : and may the angels of compassion, with healing on “their wings, hover over the site of this Mount Sinai Hospital.”

The covering-stone had, by this time, been lowered and settled in its place. The Mayor, taking a mallet, struck three times on the stone, and said :

“Lay thou there, O Corner-Stone : and may thou ever be beneath “a Hospital which shall be a shelter for Suffering Humanity, without “distinction of Race or Faith.”

After music by the band MR. BENJAMIN NATHAN introduced the HON. ALBERT CARDOZO, LL.D., Judge of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, who was received with loud applause.

The JUDGE spoke as follows :

Pressed with duties which scarcely allow time for needed rest, and utterly deny opportunity for adequate preparation, I have nevertheless, in deference to the wishes of friends, but contrary to my own preference and inclination, accepted the invitation to speak here to-day. Not with the expectation that I shall utter anything worthy of the occasion ; for were I capable, my voice is stilled in contemplation of the event and the rites in which we are engaged ; so that little more shall I attempt to do than to present, with cold detail, a brief sketch of an institution which, fortunately for it, is its own best advocate.

About twenty years ago, there assembled in the City of New York a few pious gentlemen of an ancient faith, founded in the days of old father Abraham, and preserved in its integrity through many vicissitudes and much suffering down to the present time. And if, which I have been accustomed to believe not so, any importance attaches to the subject of ancestry, they were lineal descendants of those great men whose genius illumined the earth, and whose prowess, wisdom and learning, made the only Democratic theocracy which the world has yet seen, renowned and conspicuous for everything that can make a nation great and glorious in peace and in war, in art and in science.

They were Hebrews ! Not of that vulgar and degraded class, to be found among all faiths, and unhappily most noisy and presumptuous, whose debased instincts bring disgrace and contumely on the religion they profess—but men of pure and elevated character, who practised the virtues that religion should produce. And, actuated by a desire—always a sentiment with the race,—to protect the public charities of the land in which they dwell, while cheerfully contributing to uphold them, from the burden of supporting the unfortunate of their faith, by providing for all the necessitous of their creed, they found that there was lacking one important institution which was indispensable to make their charitable system complete. There were means to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to bury the dead, to extend material comfort to impoverished widowhood, and to support and educate the orphan, and assist him to become, if an humble, at least a worthy and reputable citizen. But there was yet another class, whose claims upon the humane could not be disregarded. It consisted of those who needed that description of medical or surgical aid or care which could only be successfully afforded to them in a well-organized and properly conducted hospital. That necessity they resolved must be supplied ; and those philanthropic gentlemen set themselves about its accomplishment with a determined will, and a zeal and ardor worthy of the cause in which they were engaged. Still, lavish as the Hebrews proverbially are in such matters, the demands upon them were already so great, that some time elapsed before any considerable progress was made. But constant and energetic efforts to effect a purpose for which the best impulses of our nature appeal, whose merits do not need and defy description, must prevail ; and in the month of January, 1852, success had become so probable that articles of association under the statutes of the State were duly executed and filed ; and very soon afterwards, by subscriptions from individuals and donations from other charitable societies, and the proceeds of a ball given in aid of the enterprise, such a sum had been accumulated that the subject of hiring a house for temporary use was agitated, discussed and considered, but abandoned because of the difficulty of securing a place suitable for the purpose. Not long after this, the hospital, by the will of a gentleman, whose charities, irrespective of creed, have made his name familiar throughout the world, and his memory dear to all mankind, received a large addition to its funds ; and land in Twenty-eighth street, between Seventh and Eighth avenues, having been given to it by another generous benefactor, it was resolved to erect a suitable hospital building.

And on the 25th of November, 1853, though it is recorded that the weather was severe, the corner-stone of the building yet occupied, was laid, with fitting ceremonies, in the presence of a large concourse of prominent citizens, who had assembled to exhibit their interest in the undertaking, and to testify their sympathy with the object, and their approbation of the energy with which it had been pursued. And, finally, a structure which the newspapers described as "calculated to accommodate one hundred and fifty persons, admirably arranged and well ventilated, and costing about \$35,000," was completed, and on the 17th of May, 1855, amid exultant rejoicing, and with profound gratitude, was solemnly consecrated to the holy purposes of its founders, and that which before had been but a cherished hope became a consummated reality. During that year—1855—the first of its practical existence, one hundred and thirteen patients were recipients of its bounty; and it has gone on increasing and extending its usefulness until, in 1869, the number of persons treated exceeded fifteen hundred.

But I must hasten with my narrative; for I fear to become tedious or to detain you too long. Indeed, by its annual reports, the history of the institution, from its organization, is familiar to most of you. To those to whom it is not, it is enough to say that down to 1865 it was supported exclusively by voluntary contributions from the charitable, and that should I attempt to relate its experience during that interval, I should only repeat what you all well understand and realize, the trials and difficulties to which all new institutions are subjected during the period of their infancy, and until they have vindicated their claims to public confidence. Suffice it to say, that it steadily grew in public estimation and favor, and soon became recognized as a model hospital, whether considered with reference to the convenience and arrangements of the buildings, the superiority of the medical staff, or the liberality of the management. Thus far it had been used mostly, if not exclusively, for Hebrews. I believe, in a few instances of urgent necessity, like serious accident in the vicinity, persons of other faiths had been treated. But they were exceptional cases.

But when could the charities of the Hebrews be long confined within the limits of the professors of their own faith? No such narrow estimate of its capacity or their duty ever entered the brain or heart of the projectors of this noble work. It was a Hebrew institution, originating in Hebrew philanthropy and liberality, and forever to be maintained and governed by Hebrews; but its charities were to be of universal application. Anxiously, therefore, did it look forward

to the time when the condition of its resources would enable it to make good the pledge which was made for it by a distinguished minister, one of the two surviving clergymen who assisted to frame and initiate this measure: both of them friends, who I am happy to see here to-day, rejoicing in the fulfillment of the good for which they strove so ardently, and who, I trust, will be spared for much more usefulness.* On the occasion of laying the corner-stone of the Twenty-eighth Street building, when he performed the part which has been allotted to me to-day, and which he would so much better discharge, acting as the organ of the direction, he told the assembled multitude, and the newspapers spread the report throughout an approving and applauding world: "It is not the intention to exclude those not of the Hebrew faith, but Hebrew and Gentile alike are to share and participate in its advantages."

It was a proud triumph for the management, that it was able to begin to redeem this promise, just when the necessity for it arose, during that trying period when the nation was tottering in its existence. Since then no discrimination has been allowed. All are received "save those whom their vice debases;" and each is left to the dictates of his own conscience in the selection of a spiritual adviser, if any be desired, either for solace during illness, or to shrive the dying or bless the dead.

In 1865, the State first recognized the institution as entitled to its protection and patronage, and since then it has been annually placed in its just order in appropriations for charitable purposes.

At length the locality, which originally was admirably adapted to its uses, yielding to the changes which occur in all large cities, and especially in our own, succumbed to the demands of trade and the necessities of an increasing population; and the din and bustle of the manufactories which grew up around it, and the contiguity of crowded tenements, admonished the directors that the pure atmosphere, and the calm quiet, so essential for the invalid, could no longer be enjoyed in their present habitation. Besides, the building, which was well arranged so far as skill and experience had then suggested, had become inadequate to meet the demands of the present day, either as to numbers or improved systems. These considerations being addressed to the Legislature, a law was passed in 1868, authorizing the city, in its discretion, to lease the property on which we are now standing. I

* Rev. Drs. Lyons and Isaacs.

need hardly say that the city authorities gladly exercised the power thus conferred, and with characteristic liberality granted a lease of this site to the hospital, at the nominal rent of one dollar, for the period of a hundred years. And it is hoped that soon, upon this spot, will be erected a building, to which members of all persuasions have contributed, which it is estimated will cost \$250,000, and which will be an ornament to the city, and will rival in every particular, any similar institution throughout the habitable globe.

During all this, Mr. President, I have omitted to say anything in praise of those whose skilful management has been crowned with such signal success, or of those who have so generously sustained and supported it, or of the distinguished medical faculty in which from the first it has been so favored, whose services have been gratuitously rendered.

I know they all reaped their reward in what they were doing, and I fear to speak of the living who are identified with the institution, for if I should utter what my heart would prompt, it might seem fulsome, especially in this presence, where there are so many who have made their private interests subordinate to this great public charity. And besides, where all have been so kind, according to their means, it would be invidious and unjust to particularize those whose fortunes have enabled them to give more largely, but not more willingly, than the mass. But, at least, I may be permitted to drop a word, though it be but to name them, to the memory of some who were prominent, and at whose death the hearts of the Hebrews throbbed heavily: for they knew, that as each passed away, that the poor had one friend less on earth. For my part, I ask no higher epitaph. Touro, whose benevolence knew neither clime nor creed; Simpson, the first President of the institution, venerable and venerated; Lewis Morrison, the younger, Henry Hart and Fatman, earnest and active wherever the cause of charity most needed a worker; Henry Hendricks, unobtrusive but efficient; Dr. Mott, the framer of the rules for the government of the medical board, whose connection with it began with its commencement, and ended only at his death—chief of the medical staff—chief of the medical profession:—Some by land, some by money, some by laborious effort—benefactors of the hospital!—have all, within the brief period of its existence, passed to another world: some in the fulness of ripe old age, others stricken down in the maturity of their strength, and while life seemed fair and promising. They have gone from this sphere of toil and trial, where the reality

never equals the anticipations of hope or ambition, but their worth and their zeal, reverently treasured, will rear a loving monument to their memory, more enduring than brilliant fame, for polluted breath cannot tarnish nor time itself dim or efface it.

Their absence makes a void in the hearts of their associates, who keenly feel and deplore their loss, but they must find consolation in their bright example, and in the reflection that their deeds of mercy towards those who it is said are God's especial care, will assuredly have appealed before His throne for the salvation of the souls of their departed friends.

Let us let them rest gently. I have thus, hastily and imperfectly, alluded to the past. May not fondest hopes be indulged for the future?

And now, from its foundation, I dedicate the beautiful edifice, about to be erected on this spot, to the charitable purposes for which it is designed. I dedicate it in the name of the union of these States—may both alike be perpetual! whose theory of religious liberty and equality, faithfully maintained from the birth of the nation—may it never be violated!—has attracted so many to these shores who have shed lustre upon our race, and who have repaid their adopted country for its protection by devoting treasure and talent, and life itself, to her interests.

I dedicate it in the name of the State of New York—may the career of both be upward and onward in prosperity, forever! under whose parental and protecting care and benign influence and policy the institution has thriven and grown, from insignificant and dependent infancy, until it has attained its present extended usefulness and proportions.

I dedicate it in the name of the City of New York—catholic and profuse in its generosity towards all laudable objects—our pride, our home; with which our dearest interests and hopes are identified, and for whose welfare our heartstrings vibrate with tenderest emotion and sensibility; whose progress in all that makes a city really great, while only keeping pace with our affection, has excited the admiration and amazement of the world, and provoked at times the envy of her less favored sisters of both this and the old country; whose munificence towards this and all deserving charities marks her pre-eminent, as in everything else, for entire freedom from bigotry and for devotion to the cause of humanity and the sacred principle of religious liberty.

And in the name of all these, speaking for those who cannot speak for themselves—for the helpless, the hapless, and the forlorn—I invoke the aid of all to sustain this admirable charity and make the institution a perfect and permanent success.

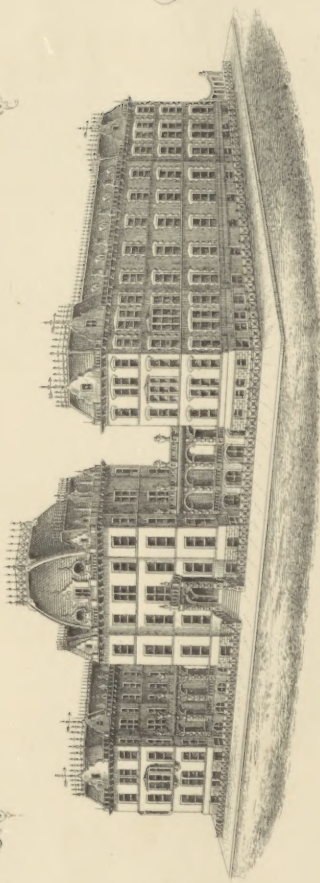
At the conclusion of the Judge's address, and music by the band, the large audience gradually dispersed.

Of the address, the *Sunday Leader* editorially remarked:

"The address will speak for itself. It is full, concise and compact, as is all of the Judge's rhetoric. In a few words the Judge has the capacity of saying a great deal. It is not easy to convey, by description, the magnetism of manner which attended its delivery. In attitude, in pose, in grace of gesture, in play of feature, in the sparkle of the eye, and in all which tends to illustrate by manner the efforts of oratory, the Judge surprised even his best friends. It is seldom that so finished an oratorical effort has been witnessed or heard in the City of New York."

Mount Sinai Hospital

BENJAMIN NATHAN, PRES.
 EMANUEL B. HART, VICE PRES.
 LEWIS MAY TREAS.
 SAMUEL A. LEWIS, HON. SECRETY.
 HARRIS ARONSON.
 JOHN M. LAWRENCE.



HENRY GITTERMAN.
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